

Pennsylvania Junior Dairy Show Leasing Rule

1. **Leased animals** may be exhibited at the Pennsylvania Junior Dairy Show. Existence of a lease must be verified by the home county or school; the county or school must have the lease and/or project plan (or knowledge of the lease) recorded by **June 1st of the current year**.
2. Leased animals must be housed in Pennsylvania unless approval is received from PA Junior Dairy Show director.
3. Cows may only be leased by the exhibitor only if they were previously leased as calves or yearlings.
4. Parents/guardians and siblings are not permitted to lease animals to their children or siblings; likewise, an exhibitor who owns animals may not lease other project animals.
5. At the time of check-in, exhibitors of leased animals must present a copy of a signed lease, signed project plan, or verification letter from an extension agent or teacher that the animal is a properly leased animal.

4-H Dairy Animal Leasing Program Description and Rules

Program Description

The intent of the 4-H animal leasing program is to provide opportunities for 4-H livestock or dairy project involvement to youth who:

- Lack financial resources needed to purchase and care for an animal,
- Lack facilities and equipment necessary to provide proper daily care for a large animal, or
- Are prevented from participating in project experiences requiring ownership and daily care of a large animal due to circumstances beyond their control.

Breeding animals owned and housed by a sponsor are leased by 4-H members for the project year. A schedule for sharing with the owner in the care and training for each animal is developed and agreed upon. 4-H members do scheduled tasks and participate in 4-H activities with the animals. 4-H members may exhibit leased animals only at 4-H shows permitting showing of leased project animals.

Objectives

1. Youth unable to participate in 4-H animal projects requiring animal ownership and complete responsibility for animal care will have the opportunity to participate in breeding animal project experiences involving dairy cattle, beef cattle, sheep, goats or swine.
2. Youth will develop an appreciation for animal agriculture.
3. 4-H members will be provided with the opportunity to develop life skills in areas including leadership, citizenship, communications, careers, personal and value development, and relating to people.
4. 4-H members will be provided with the opportunity to develop skills and knowledge related to animal sciences and the care, management, marketing, and use of animals and their projects.

Eligibility

A. Youth (lessees)

- a. Youth must meet requirements for 4-H membership in Pennsylvania. For a youth to be considered a 4-H member, he or she must:
 - i. Be at least 8 years of age and must not have passed his or her 19th birthday before January 1 of the current year.
 - ii. Be enrolled in one or more 4-H projects
 - iii. Have such enrollment recorded in the county extension office
 - iv. Not enrolled in the same project in two or more counties or states.

- b. The 4-H member must enroll in a 4-H project and file a copy of the project plan and the written lease, if one exists, with the extension office in the county where the member is enrolled by June 1st of the project year. A written lease is not required.
 - c. The member must be in good standing and follow club standards for attendance of the 4-H club in which the project is carried.
 - d. 4-H members who own animals may not lease project animals of the same species.
- B. Sponsors (owners or lessors)**
- a. Sponsors must have proof of ownership of the animal to be leased on or before the date when the lease agreement is to take effect.
 - b. Owners who are not volunteer leaders and owners' employees and family members do not need to complete the 4-H volunteer screening process. Sponsors (owners) who will be advising 4-H members as volunteer 4-H leaders should be screened volunteers approved by Penn State Cooperative Extension.
 - c. Parents or guardians are not permitted to lease animals to their children. Ownership should be encouraged whenever possible. Siblings are not permitted to lease to each other.
- C. Animals**
- a. Title ownership as stated on the registration certificate of the leased animal will remain in the possession of the sponsor.
 - b. Cows may be leased and exhibited as project animals only if they were leased by the 4-H member during the project years when they were calves or yearlings.

Rules

A. General Rules

- a. A project plan must be signed and filed for each animal leased.
- b. A written lease is not required. If the parent or sponsor requires a written lease, it must be submitted to the county extension office for liability insurance approval before it is signed. At least 30 days must be allowed for insurance approval. (See Section E.)
- c. The approved project plan must be signed by the 4-H leader, sponsor, lessee, and parent or legal guardian of the lessee and filed in the county extension office with the written lease (if one exists) by June 1st of the project year.
- d. The lease agreement will remain in effect until the end of the project year or until terminated by either party. The lease agreement may be terminated prior to the end of the project year for reasons such as:
 - i. Failure of lessee or lessor to carry out responsibilities as outlined in the lease agreement.
 - ii. Changes in the faring operation of the sponsor.
- e. The project plan must be reviewed by the leader, sponsor, and lessee prior to entering the leased animal in a show to insure the responsibilities are being carried out by the lessee. The leader and sponsor will sign the section on lessee compliance in the project plan and a copy of the signed project plan will be sent to the county extension office.

B. Responsibilities of 4-H Members

4-H members leasing animals (lessees) must:

- a. Complete responsibilities for animal care agreed upon between 4-H member, sponsor, and member's 4-H leader. It is recommended that the member assist with the care of the animal at least one time per week.
- b. Keep records of project plan, animals, activities, expenses and income in the appropriate 4-H project record. The record must be turned into the member's 4-H leader for evaluation at the end of the project year.
- c. Attend regularly scheduled 4-H meetings.
- d. Participate in activities recommended for project completion.
- e. Leased dairy animals are eligible to be exhibited at Pennsylvania Junior Dairy Show and its qualifying district shows. The youth shows at county fairs, the Pennsylvania Farm Show, and some breed championship shows are not 4-H shows. They are junior shows with their own rules

and regulations; therefore, leased animals are not eligible to show at them. It is the responsibility of the 4-H member to consult show rules to determine if he or she is eligible to participate in a particular show.

C. Responsibilities of Families of 4-H Members

- a. Agree to transport or arrange transportation of the 4-H member to perform feeding and management chores for the leased animals on pre-determined schedule. At least once per week is recommended.
- b. Let the owner have final say in all decisions about the maintenance, transportation, and disposal of the animal.
- c. Provide proof of liability insurance coverage.
- d. Pay expenses incurred in exhibiting the animal(s), including veterinary, transportation, entry fees, and miscellaneous expenditures, as negotiated with the owner (sponsor).
- e. Pay expenses incurred as negotiated with the owner.

D. Responsibilities of Sponsors

- a. Agree to make the animal available to the 4-H member (lessee) as negotiated for project activities during the period of the lease agreement.
- b. House and maintain the animal at his or her own farm facilities and pay routine expenses associated with its housing, feeding, and maintenance.
- c. Provide proof of liability insurance coverage.
- d. All the 4-H member to keep an premiums or awards won while exhibiting the animal during the duration of the contract.
- e. Not exhibit the animal during the term of the lease. The animal should not be exhibited by its owner.

E. Liability Insurance

4-H members that lease an animal for a project are in the same position from a liability standpoint as if they owned the animal. The parents and owners should have their own liability insurance to provide coverage as if it was an owned animal. The 4-H liability insurance is not twenty-four coverage. It is intended to cover 4-H activities, such as club meetings or project activities. A Certificate of Insurance can be issued to show coverage for meeting or activity, but such certificate will not relieve the owner/lessor of their liability. All contracts regarding leasing of animals must be approved by the 4-H liability insurance company prior to signing to verify coverage. Even though the contract is not signed by a 4-H volunteer, the court might impute coverage to 4-H by the language of the contract of lease if the parent is construed to be operating under the 4-H program.

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A copy of this Leasing Project Plan is due to the Susquehanna County Extension Office by June 1st.

4-H Dairy and Livestock Breeding Animal Leasing Program Project Plan

1. Write a separate plan for each animal you lease. Have your leader, parent, and animal's owner approve it.
2. A written lease is not required. If your parents or the animal's owner want a written lease, you must send it to the County Extension Office for approval by the 4-H insurer before you sign it. Allow at least a month for the insurer to approve it.
3. Send a copy of the plan and the signed lease (if there is a written lease) to the County Extension Office by June 1st.
4. Review the project agreement with your leader and the animal's owner before each show to verify that you are doing the project tasks you agreed to do.
5. Send a copy of the agreement with the signatures of your leader and animal's owner to the County Extension Office before the end deadline for each show.

4-H Member Information

Name _____

Age (as of January 1, current year) _____

Club _____

Leader _____

Animal Information

Name _____

Ear tag or tattoo and registration numbers _____

Species or kind _____

Breed _____

Sex _____

Date of birth _____

Owner _____

Plan

How often will you feed and water the animal? (At least once a week is recommended.)

What will you do to train and exercise the animal? _____

What will you do to groom or fit the animal? _____

What will you do to keep the animal's housing and equipment clean? _____

What other chores or jobs will you do to take care of the animal (for example, helping with milking, deworming, vaccinating, shearing, lambing, calving, etc.)? Tell what you will do and how often you will do it.

List all the shows and other events you plan to attend with the animal.

Approval of Plan

We agree to follow the rules of the Pennsylvania 4-H Dairy and Livestock Breeding Animal Leasing Program. We have discussed this plan and agree to its terms.

_____	_____	_____	_____
4-H member's signature	date	4-H leader's signature	date
_____	_____	_____	_____
Parent or guardian's signature	date	Animal owner's signature	date

Leader and Owner Verification

We have reviewed the project work done by this 4-H member and agree that he or she is doing what was planned to care for the animal and is eligible to participate in the 4-H show or event listed below:

Event	Sponsor/owner signature	Date	Leader signature	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____